

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 5-22 were presented for examination. Claims 1 and 5-9 were allowed. Claims 10-22 were rejected.

The applicants have canceled claims 10-22 without prejudice, and the applicants respectfully reserve the right to re-present any or all of these claims in this or another application.

Furthermore, the applicants have submitted an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) in order to have the cited references from another, related application (US 11/470007) considered. For this reason only, the applicants have also submitted a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

The applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the amendments and the following comments.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection of Claims 10, 11, and 14-22

Claims 10, 11, and 14-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Houston et al., WO 00/38591 (hereinafter "Houston").

The applicants have canceled these claims, and respectfully submit that as a result the rejection of these claims is overcome.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection of Claims 12 and 13

Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Houston.

The applicants have canceled these claims, and respectfully submit that as a result the rejection of these claims is overcome.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Office stated that claims 1 and 5-9 are allowable over the prior art.

Request for Reconsideration Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Having responded to each and every ground for objection and rejection in the last Office action, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the instant application

pursuant to 37 CFR 1.111 and request that the Examiner allow all of the pending claims and pass the application to issue.

If there are remaining issues, the applicants respectfully request that Examiner telephone the applicants' agent so that those issues can be resolved as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,
John Graeme Houston et al.

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